



DRESDNER  
MUSIKFESTSPIELE

Press Release, May 16, 2023

## The Dresden Music Festival Opens on May 18, Presenting 64 Concerts Full of Contrasts

The **Dresden Music Festival** launches a season full of contrasts on May 18, 2023 under the motto »BLACKANDWHITE«. Its opening night features the **Munich Philharmonic** under the baton of **Tugan Sokhiev** with **soprano Christiane Karg** in a program uniting two musical worlds: Shostakovich's Symphony No. 6 in B-minor Op. 54, created when war was still uppermost in its composer's mind, is juxtaposed with Mahler's dream-like Symphony No. 4 in G-major.

»Although our motto is 'BLACK AND WHITE', our program is particularly colorful this year. Genre diversity and such a wide range of offerings as never before at the festival describe our world, which is full of contrasts and yet never black and white,« says **Jan Vogler**, artistic director of the Dresden Music Festival.

Over **32 festival days**, the audience may look forward to **64 concerts** presenting approximately **1,500 artists** from the classical, jazz and world music genres. Internationally celebrated performers such as pianist **Hélène Grimaud**, soprano **Joyce DiDonato**, multi-percussionist **Martin Grubinger**, the Grammy and German Jazz Award winner **Cécile McLorin Salvant** and jazz trombonist **Nils Landgren** will conjure up a vivid festival atmosphere at **22 performance venues** throughout the city. The final concert by **Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** will be an open-air event for the first time this year, held at the Junge Garde.

The special festival focus »**Playful Keys**« includes **19 concerts** dedicated to the black and white keys on the piano, offering an array of pianists of various generations and genres: these include **Mikhail Pletnev**, **Emanuel Ax**, **Lucas & Arthur Jussen**, the jazz pianists **Michael Wolly** and **Johanna Summer** or the only 15-year-old rising star **Alexandra Dovgan** and **Louis Lortie**, who will perform the complete Beethoven symphonies in Franz Liszt's original arrangements together with young pianists.

Further highlights of the 46<sup>th</sup> Dresden Music Festival include two concert performances of operas using historical instruments: the **Helsinki Baroque Orchestra** under **Aapo Häkkinen's** baton will give a semi-staged rendition of Robert Schumann's rarely-performed opera »**Genoveva**« at the Kulturpalast. And with Richard Wagner's »**Das Rheingold**«, a large-scale artistic and academic project involving the **Dresden Festival Orchestra** and **Concerto Köln** under the baton of **Kent Nagano** is launched in Dresden: starting in 2023, one part of the opera tetralogy »Der Ring des Nibelungen« will be produced every year, in keeping with the principles of historically informed performance practice.

**The 46th Dresden Music Festival takes place from May 18 to June 18, 2023.**

**For further information, please contact:**

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